

Stellar Awards

Eligibility Category Descriptions



CATEGORY #1: ARTIST OF THE YEAR

Category Description: This category awards the best *Artist of the Year*. An artist may be a soloist, group/duo, quartet or choir. In addition, this artist may be a *Traditional, Contemporary, Urban/Inspirational, Instrumental, or Rap/Hip Hop Gospel* performer. An artist nominated for this category must have released multiple songs that have consistently charted on the Nielsen Charts. The artist's current project must have charted in the Top 15 for at least Six Weeks on at least two of the Nielsen charts (Billboard, SoundScan, or BDS) during the eligibility period. **The Nominating Committee reserves the right to make additions or remove entries from this category based on the technical merits and charting position of the project.**

CATEGORY #2: SONG OF THE YEAR

Category Description: This category awards the best *Song of the Year*. This Song may be *Traditional, Contemporary, Urban/Inspirational, Instrumental, or Rap/Hip Hop Gospel* performer. **This Award is presented to the Songwriter.** The song nominated in this category should have charted in the top 15 for at least Six Weeks on at least two of the Nielsen charts (Billboard, SoundScan, or BDS) during the eligibility period. **The Nominating Committee reserves the right to make additions or remove entries from this category based on the technical merits and charting position of the project.**

CATEGORY #3: MALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR

Category Description: This category awards the best *Male Vocalist of the Year*. This artist is a soloist or lead singer of a group, choir or quartet. The artist's current project must have charted in the top 15 for at least Six Weeks on at least two of the Nielsen charts (Billboard, SoundScan, or BDS) during the eligibility period. This award is designated for singers only. **The Nominating Committee reserves the right to make additions or remove entries from this category based on the technical merits and charting position of the project.**

CATEGORY #4: ALBERTINA WALKER FEMALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR

Category Description: This category awards the best *Female Vocalist of the Year*. This Artist is a soloist or lead singer of a group, choir or quartet. The artist's current project must have charted in the top 15 for at least Six Weeks on at least two of the Nielsen charts (Billboard, SoundScan, or BDS) during the eligibility period. This award is designated for singers only. **The Nominating Committee reserves the right to make additions or remove entries from this category based on the technical merits and charting position of the project.**

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CATEGORY #5: CHORUS GROUP/DUO OF THE YEAR

Category Description: This category awards the best *Duo/Chorus Group of the Year*. This group or duo can consist of only two (2) to ten (10) individuals. The Group or Duo's current project must have charted in the top 25 for at least Four Weeks on at least two of the Nielsen charts (Billboard, SoundScan, or BDS) during the eligibility period.

CATEGORY #6: NEW ARTIST OF THE YEAR

Category Description: This category awards the best *New Artist of the Year*. The Artist(s) may be a soloist, group/duo, choir or quartet. In addition, this artist has never previously recorded a solo song on anyone else's project and is new to the industry as a lead singer. An artist nominated for this category must have charted for at least Four Weeks on at least two of the Nielsen charts (Billboard, SoundScan, or BDS) during the eligibility period.

CATEGORY #7: CD OF THE YEAR

Category Description: This category awards the best *CD of the Year*. *This Award is presented to the Artist (s). The CD nominated for this category must have at least two (2) songs charting in the top 25 for at least Four Weeks on at least two of the Nielsen charts* (Billboard, SoundScan, or BDS).

CATEGORY #8: CHOIR OF THE YEAR

Category Description: This category awards the best *Choir of the Year*. A choir must consist of 11 or more individuals. The Choir's current project must have charted in the top 25 for at least Four Weeks on at least two of the Nielsen charts (Billboard, SoundScan, or BDS) during the eligibility period.

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CATEGORY #9: PRODUCER OF THE YEAR

Category Description: This category awards the best *Producer of the Year*. *This award is given to the Producer(s)*. The Producer's current project must have charted in the Top 25 for at least Four Weeks on at least two of the Nielsen charts (Billboard, SoundScan, or BDS) during the eligibility period.

CATEGORY #10: CONTEMPORARY CHORUS GROUP/DUO OF THE YEAR

Category Description: This category awards the best *Duo or Chorus Group of the Year in the category of Contemporary Gospel Music*. *This group or duo can consist of only two (2) to ten (10) individuals*. A Group or Duo nominated for this category must have charted in the top 25 for at least Four Weeks on at least two of the Nielsen charts (Billboard, SoundScan, or BDS) during the eligibility period.

CATEGORY #11: TRADITIONAL CHORUS GROUP/DUO OF THE YEAR

Category Description: This category awards the best *Duo or Chorus Group of the Year in the category of Traditional Gospel Music*. *This group or duo can consist of only two (2) to ten (10) individuals*. A Group or Duo nominated for this category must have charted in the top 25 for at least Four Weeks on at least two of the Nielsen charts (Billboard, SoundScan, or BDS) during the eligibility period.

CATEGORY #12: CONTEMPORARY MALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR

Category Description: This category awards the best *Male Vocalist of the Year* in the category of **Contemporary Gospel Music**. This male artist may be a soloist or a lead singer of a group/duo, choir or quartet. An artist nominated for this category must have charted in the top 25 for at least Four Weeks on at least two of the Nielsen charts (Billboard, SoundScan, or BDS) during the eligibility period.

CATEGORY #13: TRADITIONAL MALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR

Category Description: This category awards the best *Male Vocalist of the Year* in the category of **Traditional Gospel Music**. This male artist may be a soloist or a lead singer of a group/duo, choir or quartet. An artist nominated for this category must have charted in the top 25 for at least Four Weeks on at least two of the Nielsen charts (Billboard, SoundScan, or BDS) during the eligibility period.

CATEGORY #14: CONTEMPORARY FEMALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR

Category Description: This category awards the best *Female Vocalist of the Year* in the category of **Contemporary Gospel Music**. This female artist may be a soloist or a lead singer of a

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group/duo, choir or quartet. An artist nominated for this category must have charted in the top 25 for at least Four Weeks on at least two of the Nielsen charts (Billboard, SoundScan, or BDS) during the eligibility period.

CATEGORY #15: TRADITIONAL FEMALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR

Category Description: This category awards the best *Female Vocalist of the Year* in the category of **Traditional Gospel Music**. This female artist may be a soloist or a lead singer of a group/duo, choir or quartet. An artist nominated for this category must have charted in the top 25 for at least Four Weeks on at least two of the Nielsen charts (Billboard, SoundScan, or BDS) during the eligibility period.

CATEGORY #16: CONTEMPORARY CD OF THE YEAR

Category Description: This category awards the best *Contemporary CD of the Year*. A CD nominated for this category must have *at least two (2) songs from the CD charting in the top 25 for at least Four Weeks on at least two of the Nielsen charts (Billboard, SoundScan, or BDS) during the eligibility period.*

CATEGORY #17: TRADITIONAL CD OF THE YEAR

Category Description: This category awards the best *Traditional CD of the Year*. A CD nominated for this category must have *at least two (2) songs from the CD charting in the top 25 for at least Four Weeks on at least two of the Nielsen charts (Billboard, SoundScan, or BDS) during the eligibility period.*

CATEGORY #18: URBAN/INSPIRATIONAL/INSTRUMENTAL SINGLE/PERFORMANCE OF THE YEAR

Category Description: This category awards the best *Urban/Inspirational /Instrumental Single/Performance of the Year*. This Single/Performance may be performed by a Gospel Artist or a Secular Artist, which promotes "Gospel Music". No Single/Performance with profanity or suggestive lyrics will be eligible. The Single or Performance nominated for this category must be charting in the top 25 for at least Four Weeks on at least two of the Nielsen charts (Billboard, SoundScan, or BDS) during the eligibility period.

CATEGORY #19: MUSIC VIDEO OF THE YEAR

Category Description: For concept music videos, released during the current eligibility year and is synchronous to a commercially released recording. This **Award** is given to the video director. A song or project nominated for this category must have charted in the top 25 for at least Four

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Weeks on at least two of the Nielsen charts (Billboard, SoundScan, or BDS) during the eligibility period and must submit two copies of the Music Video on DVD for review.

CATEGORY #20: TRADITIONAL CHOIR OF THE YEAR

Category Description: This category awards the best *Choir of the Year* in the category of *Traditional Gospel Music*. *A Choir must consist of 11 or more individuals*. A Choir nominated for this category must have charted in the top 25 for at least Four Weeks on at least two of the Nielsen charts (Billboard, SoundScan, or BDS) during the eligibility period.

CATEGORY #21: CONTEMPORARY CHOIR OF THE YEAR

Category Description: This category awards the best *Choir of the Year* in the category of *Contemporary Gospel Music*. *A Choir must consist of 11 or more individuals*. A Choir nominated for this category must have charted in the top 25 for at least Four Weeks on at least two of the Nielsen charts (Billboard, SoundScan, or BDS) during the eligibility period.

CATEGORY #22: INSTRUMENTAL GOSPEL CD OF THE YEAR

Category Description: This category awards the best *Instrumental Gospel CD of the Year*. 80% of the CD should be completely instrumental in order for it to qualify for this category. A CD nominated for this category must have charted on at least two of the Nielsen charts (Billboard, SoundScan, or BDS) during the eligibility period.

CATEGORY #23: SPECIAL EVENT CD OF THE YEAR

Category Description: This category awards the best *Special Event CD of the Year*. This category awards an artist(s) who has collaborated with another artist(s), has recorded a special tribute to a gospel artist(s), or has commemorated a special event or Gospel tradition. A CD nominated for this category must have charted in the top 25 for at least Four Weeks on at least two of the Nielsen charts (Billboard, SoundScan, or BDS) during the eligibility period.

CATEGORY #24: RAP/HIP HOP GOSPEL CD OF THE YEAR

Category Description: This category awards the best *Rap/Hip Hop Gospel CD of the Year*. This CD must be performed by a Gospel Artist. No CD with profanity or suggestive lyrics will be eligible. A CD nominated for this category must have charted on at least two of the Nielsen charts (Billboard, SoundScan, or BDS) during the eligibility period. **The Nominating Committee reserves the right to make additions or remove entries from this category based on the technical merits and charting position of the project.**

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CATEGORY #25: YOUTH PROJECT OF THE YEAR

Category Description: This category awards the best *Youth Project of the Year*. This project must be a complete CD and not a single or performance on another artist's CD. All performers on the project must be 18 years or younger for the project to qualify in this category.

CATEGORY #26: QUARTET OF THE YEAR

Category Description: This Traditional category awards the best *Quartet of the Year*. This quartet category is limited to groups of three to six individuals. A Quartet nominated for this category must have charted on at least two of the Nielsen charts (Billboard, SoundScan, or BDS) during the eligibility period. **The Nominating Committee reserves the right to make additions or remove entries from this category based on the technical merits and charting position of the project.**

CATEGORY #27: RECORDED MUSIC PACKAGING OF THE YEAR

Category Description: This category awards the best *Recorded Music Packaging of the Year*. *This Award is presented to the Graphic Artist, Illustrator, Producer, Art Director, or Photographer of the product.* The project nominated for this category must have charted in the top 25 for at least Four Weeks on at least two of the Nielsen charts (Billboard, SoundScan, or BDS) during the eligibility period.

CATEGORY #28: PRAISE AND WORSHIP CD OF THE YEAR

Category Description: This category awards the best *Praise and Worship CD of the Year*. *80% of the CD must be Praise and Worship in order for it to qualify for this category.* The CD nominated for this category must have charted in the top 25 for at least Four Weeks on at least two of the Nielsen charts (Billboard, SoundScan, or BDS) during the eligibility period.